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Refund of lease amount in respect of lands submerged in Malampuzha area.

* 325 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the premium or advance rent received by the Government for the lease of lands in the Malampuzha area which were later submerged under water, has been returned to the lessees; and

(*b*) if so, the amount returned so far?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) No, Sir. The question of refund of the lease amount is under consideration.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Payment of grant to libraries in Malabar.

* 326 *Q.*—DR. K. B. MENON: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of libraries functioning in Malabar that are subsidised by the State; and

(*b*) the total subsidy given to them last year?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The number of libraries, which received grant from State funds during 1953–54, is 68. The total expenditure incurred on the payment of the grant is Rs. 4,380."

Grant from the Central Government for slum improvement.

* 327 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the State Government have applied to the Government of India for subsidy towards slum improvement and acquisition of lands for assignment to the Harijans in the State;

(*b*) the subsidy and the direction, if any, received from the Government of India;

(*c*) whether any loan has been granted by the Government of India to this State for the improvement of slums; and

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of the correspondence on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) The State Government applied to the Government of India for a block grant for slum improvement and provision of houses for the poorer classes of people including Harijans, but not exclusively for Harijans.

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" (b) The Government of India have informed this Government that they are not in a position to sanction any grant and that their assistance might take the shape of interest-bearing loans.

" (c) No, Sir.

" (d) It will not serve any useful purpose to place a copy of the correspondence on the table of the House at the present stage."

Construction of Nanikkavu Thazha Anicut in Ramanthali village, North Malabar.

* 328 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the amount spent up to date by the Government under the Grow More Food Scheme in constructing Nanikkavu Thazha Anicut (Cheerpu) in Ramanthali village in Chirakkal taluk, North Malabar ; and

(b) the present condition of the anicut?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) Rs. 5,597.

" (b) The anicut is functioning properly."

Concessions granted to Gazetted officers drawing a monthly salary of less than three hundred rupees.

* 329 *Q.*—SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the categories of Gazetted officers drawing a basic salary of less than three hundred rupees per mensem and the basic pay of each such category ; and

(b) whether such officers are given any of the concessions granted to non-gazetted officers whose basic pay is less than three hundred rupees?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) A statement [a] showing the categories of gazetted officers whose minimum pay is less than Rs. 300 per mensem and showing the scales of pay of the respective posts held by them is placed on the table of the House.

" (b) The non-gazetted Government servants of the State and their families are eligible for free medical aid when admitted to Government Medical Institutions, including free accommodation, free diet, nursing and medical advice, free X-ray examination and free treatment, including surgical treatment. Free medical aid is admissible to gazetted officers and their families also with this modification that they should pay the

[a] Printed as Appendix on pages 146–150 infra.